

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8304

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

S E C R E T BRASILIA 2227

LIMDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

FOR S/P - WINSTON LORD, EB - ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS:

OES - ASSISTANT SECRETARY RAY

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, ECON, ENRG, PARN, ETRD, EFIN, BR

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE THEMES AND INITIATIVES FOR SECRETARY'S

VISIT TO BRAZIL - AN OVERVIEW

THIRD PART

D. ENERGY, FOOD, AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

21. ENERGY ILLUSTRATES THE COMPLEXITIES AND DILEMMAS
CONFRONTING BRAZIL AS IT MAKES ITS WAY TOWARD A GLOBAL
ROLE. THE EMBASSY HAS BEGUN A DIALOGUE WITH THE GOB
ON OIL. THE SECRETARY'S VISIT WILL BE COMING DURING, OR
SOON AFTER, THE PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE OIL CONSUMER-
PRODUCER CONFERENCE. THUS, HIS VISIT WILL PROVIDE AN
EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW CONSUMER STRATEGY
(NOW LARGELY IN PLACE, IN PRINCIPLE, WITHIN THE IEA)
AND US OBJECTIVES FOR THE FULL CONFERENCE. LONG-TERM
EFFORTS TO DRAW BRAZIL TOWARD COOPERATION WITH THE
INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES IN THIS AND OTHER AREAS WILL HELP
ERODE OVER TIME BRAZIL'S POSITION AS A THIRD-WORLDER--ALTHOUGH

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RESULTS IN THE SHORT TERM WILL BE LIMITED.

22. AS REPORTED IN THE EMBASSY'S PREVIOUS MESSAGES (BRAZILIA'S 886 AND 1293), THE GOB'S ATTITUDES IN THIS AREA ARE AMBIVALENT. ALTHOUGH FLATTERED BY THE PROSPECT OF JOINING THE "BIG LEAGUE," BRAZIL REMAINS IDEOLOGICALLY COMMITTED TO THE RESTRUCTURING OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND THE REDISTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL WEALTH. TO THE MORE RADICAL LDC'S, HOWEVER, ITS ATTITUDE IS SUSPECT, AND OTHER (SPANISH-SPEAKING) COUNTRIES DO NOT ACCEPT IT AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEMISPHERE. ITS INTEREST IN ARAB INVESTMENT CAPITAL--SENIOR GOB OFFICIALS STRENUOUSLY CULTIVATE ARAB MONEY MANAGERS--AND ITS TIES TO THE US AND THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD GENERALLY, ARE OTHER FACTORS THAT COMPLICATE ITS APPROACH. IN THE FORTHCOMING MEETINGS WE EXPECT BRAZIL TO PLAY A RESPONSIBLE BUT VERY CAUTIOUS ROLE.

23. THESE CONSIDERATIONS SUGGEST THAT IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS THE SECRETARY SHOULD STRESS US INTEREST AND SUPPORT FOR BRAZIL'S PARTICIPATION AS A FULL MEMBER IN THE OIL CONSUMER-PRODUCER DIALOGUE BUT SHOULD NOTE THAT THE US, SENSIBLE OF BRAZIL'S POSITION, WILL REFRAIN FROM MAKING THIS SUPPORT TOO EVIDENT PUBLICLY. IN VIEW OF THE GROWING BRAZILIAN INTEREST IN NEW ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, THE SECRETARY ALSO SHOULD MAKE AN OFFER FOR EXPANDED BILATERAL AND MULTI-LATERAL COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. AREAS WHICH WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD EXAMINE ARE NEW BILATERAL TIES BETWEEN BRAZILIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND THE ERDA RESEARCH PROGRAM, PERHAPS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AN EXPANDED BILATERAL SCIENCE AGREEMENT, AND BRAZIL'S POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION, AS A "RESEARCH ASSOCIATE," IN SPECIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY. (A PRECEDENT EXISTS THROUGH BRAZIL'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT OF THE CCMS.) IN THE NUCLEAR AREA, THERE MIGHT BE POSSIBILITIES FOR STRENGTHENED COLLABORATION, E.G., IN URANIUM EXPLORATION--A MAJOR PRIORITY OF GOB OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH ENERGY QUESTIONS--AND SHARING OF INFORMATION IN THE UTILIZATION OF THORIUM IN NUCLEAR ENERGY APPLICATIONS.

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24. WITH RESPECT TO THE WORLD FOOD PROBLEM, THE SECRETARY SHOULD PUT EMPHASIS ON BRAZIL AS ONE OF THE FEW COUNTRIES WITH LARGE LAND AREAS NOT YET UNDER CULTIVATION AND THE VERY GREAT POTENTIAL OF BRAZILIAN AGRICULTURE. BESIDES URGING A MORE ACTIVE BRAZILIAN ROLE IN THE GRAINS RESERVE GROUP, HE MIGHT OFFER PROPOSALS FOR EXPANDED COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (ALONG THE LINES OF THE SPEECH

TO THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AND THE HOUSTON SPEECH).
THE SECRETARY'S BRIEF SHOULD INCLUDE SOME SPECIFIC
SUGGESTIONS FOR AREAS IN WHICH BRAZIL COULD CONTRIBUTE
TO THE FOLLOW-UP PROGRAM OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE,
GIVEN ITS CURRENT STATE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

25. IN THE SCIENCE AREA, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE
BILATERAL AGREEMENT SHOULD BE BROADENED AND STRENGTHENED,
ESPECIALLY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE USAID CLOSE-OUT (PERHAPS
THROUGH AMENDMENT OF THE AGREEMENT). THE US NATIONAL
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HAS MADE AN ENORMOUS CONTRIBUTION,
UNDER AID AUSPICES, WHOSE VALUE IS RECOGNIZED WITHIN THE
GOB. THE US SHOULD NOT LOSE THIS CHANNEL WITH THE END
OF USAID. SUITABLE AREAS FOR EXAMINATION WOULD BE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS--BRAZIL'S INTEREST IN THIS AREA
HAS BEEN INCREASING CONSIDERABLY--OCEANOGRAPHY, ENERGY
(SEE PARAGRAPH 23 ABOVE), AND THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES
DISCUSSED DURING THE VISIT TO WASHINGTON BY THE PRESIDENT
OF BRAZIL'S NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT (CNPQ).
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